30: Gt. Britain G-5 (ca. 1918) 1920 MJ1 Saudi Arabia
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286 Spinning, weaving, and dyeing are also common industries. Cotton is spun into thread by hand-spindles and then woven in hand-looms, and sometimes machine-made yarns or twists are used in the same way; the looms are of the very simplest construction. The industry is still carried on to a small extent at Aden, and somewhat more extensively at a few centres in the interior, notably at Nisāb and Markhah, which are situated in the cotton and indigo growing district of the 'Aulaqi country; here a large amount of cotton fabrics for tribal shawls and turbans is made. The stuffs, when required, are dyed with locally prepared indigo. Sauma'ah, a town in the Beida country, is famous for a special make of goat-hair carpets.

314 Charcoal burning is an industry carried on at several places in the interior, among the wooded slopes of the hilly districts. Potash is also manufactured from a product known as 'Aden balsam'; this is not found in any quantity in Aden itself, but is prepared in the 'Abdāli and Fadhli districts. The balsam is thrown into small pits about two feet wide and one deep, and wood is added; the mass is then set fire to, and as the sap exudes from the plant it mingles with the ashes; the mixture is stirred and allowed to cool; then it is dug up and sent into Aden on camels, for sale. The price is about 8 annas per maund of 28 lb., and the potash is • 274 exported to Bombay for washing purposes. A primitive form of distilling is also in vogue, the natives producing a liquor from dates which have been placed in water and allowed to disintegrate. The industry is carried on at Aden (under certain restrictions) and other places.

Trade

438 Practically the whole of the trade of this region is centred in Aden—local trade as well as general. The trade of the only other 504 notable port of this littoral, Shūghrah (and even that of Makalla in Hadhramaut), is restricted and purely local in character, and is entirely subservient to that of Aden.

439 The total value of the trade of Aden (import and export), in round numbers, for the last two years has been:

1913–14	£8,530,000
1914–15	£6,940,000.

This falls into two categories: Transhipment trade, and Inland (or local) trade. Comparative figures for the year 1914–15, were:

Transhipment	£6,682,000
Inland	£258,000.